

"Energy is critically important to all of New Jersey as it warms our homes, fuels our cars and powers our economy. We must ensure that energy is affordable."

- Governor James E. McGreevey

**LIHEAP APPLICATION
DEADLINE IS
May 1, 2004**

For more information on other heating assistance programs, please call the numbers below:

1-800-510-3102
(LIHEAP)

1-800-792-9745
(Lifeline)

1-888-773-8326
(New Jersey Comfort Partners)

new jersey
board of public utilities

Postal Address

Two Gateway Center
Newark, N.J. 07102

Customer Assistance

1-800-624-0241

On the Web:

Visit us online at www.bpu.state.nj.us



State of New Jersey

James E. McGreevey Governor



Board of Public Utilities

Jeanne M. Fox

President

Frederick F. Butler

Commissioner

Carol J. Murphy

Commissioner

Connie O. Hughes

Commissioner

Jack Alter

Commissioner

Do You NEED Help With Your Energy Bills?



**The New Jersey
Universal Service Fund
could help you**

The Universal Service Fund (USF) program could help you pay your gas and electric bills.

The new Universal Service Fund (USF) program helps make energy bills more affordable for low-income residents. If eligible, USF will reduce the amount of your natural gas and electric bill so that you pay no more than 6% of your income on these bills. The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, under the leadership of Governor James E. McGreevey and BPU President Jeanne M. Fox, created the new USF.

To be eligible for USF you must meet two qualifications:

1. Your household income must be less than or equal to 175% of the Federal Poverty Level. (*see chart*)
2. You must be paying more than 3% of your income on electric bills or more than 3% of your income on natural gas bills. If you have electric heat in your home, you must be paying more than 6% of your income on electricity.

2004 Maximum Monthly Gross Income Eligibility Levels	
Number in Household	Monthly Gross Income
1	\$1,310
2	\$1,768
3	\$2,225
4	\$2,684
5	\$3,142
6	\$3,600
7	\$4,058
8	\$4,515
9	\$4,973

For more information about USF, please call the Department of Human Services toll free at:

1-866-240-1347

Or visit our website:

www.bpu.state.nj.us

HOW DO I ENROLL?

To apply for USF this year, you must fill out an application for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). **This application must be submitted by May 1, 2004.** By filling out this application, you will be applying for the LIHEAP program *and* you will automatically be considered for USF eligibility.

If you are already enrolled in LIHEAP you have been automatically evaluated for USF eligibility and do not have to reapply.

Make sure the name, address and account number on your LIHEAP application is **exactly** the same as the name and address found on your utility account. This is the *only* way you may be eligible for USF.

If you are not accepted into USF this year, you will be able to apply directly to the USF program again by the end of 2004.

If you are eligible, the amount of your USF benefit will be determined by household income and energy use. The maximum total annual USF benefit for any given household is \$150 a month or \$1,800 annually.